

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06311 230828Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /093 W

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R 230720Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6070

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR AMBASSADOR SNEIDER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER'S OPENING ADDRESS

REF: (A) SEOUL 6247; (B) SEOUL 6282

1. IN HIS ADDRESS AT THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SEPT. 20 SPEAKER CHONG IL-KWON CALLED ON POLITICAL PARTIES TO GIVE UP PARTISAN ACTIVITIES AND POLITICAL PROPAGANDA IN THE ASSEMBLY, AND IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST, CONCENTRATE ON ACHIEVING A PRODUCTIVE SESSION. HE URGED THE MINORITY TO ABIDE BY MAJORITY DECISIONS AND THE MAJORITY TO LISTEN TO VOICE OF MINORITY.

2. CHONG PROMISED THAT ALL POLITICAL PROBLEMS WOULD BE DEBATED ON THE ASSEMBLY FLOOR IN ORDER TO PREVENT "SOCIAL CONFUSION" RESULTING FROM POLITICAL ACTIVITY OUTSIDE THE ASSEMBLY. HE SAID THAT THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD BE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE PEOPLE.

3. COMMENT: AS EARLIER SIGNALLED IN GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS,
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CHONG HAS NOW FORMALLY INDICATED THAT GOVERNMENT WILL

PERMIT GREATER ASSEMBLY FREEDOM IN DEBATING BASIC POLITICAL ISSUES. ALTHOUGH MODERATE IN TONE AND PROMISING FULL FLOOR DEBATE, CHONG ALSO OBVIOUSLY WARNING NDP THAT IT IS EXPECTED TO SHOW RESTRAINT IN DISCUSSION AND TO CONFINE ITS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PARLIAMENTARY FRAMEWORK, NOT CARRY ITS OPPOSITION TO EXTREMES EITHER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE ASSEMBLY.

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005